

# The County of Centre

## PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 23 of 2016

**WHEREAS**, this is the week of the Young child, and respected research shows, children who have had access to high-quality Pre-K education perform well in school and further in life, and

**WHEREAS**, more children are enrolling in kindergarten in need of extra assistance and preparation that is often difficult for school districts to provide and which may be avoided with greater access to high quality Pre-K education, and

**WHEREAS**, research conducted in Pennsylvania finds that increased access to Pre-K education can decrease the rate of special education placements by nearly fifty percent through the second grade, and

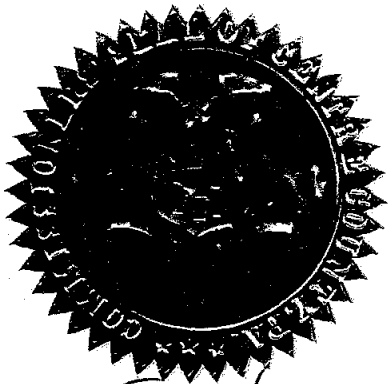
**WHEREAS**, an increasing number of our region's families are finding it difficult to meet the cost of high-quality Pre-K education, which can frequently exceed spending on rent or mortgage, or college tuition, and

**WHEREAS**, child care centers, nursery schools and Pre-K education centers do not uniformly have the capacity or resources to offer high quality Pre-K education programs, and

**WHEREAS**, our investments in high quality early care, education and family services supports the economic success and stability of our nation by reducing the need for special education services, ensuring successful readers by third grade, increasing high school graduation rates, reduction in prison populations, increasing future college graduates, providing higher income earners and increased tax bases for our state.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim May 23-29, 2016 as "**The Week of the Young Child**" in Centre County and supports the adoption of policies that ensure every three- and four-year-old child in Pennsylvania can access high-quality Pre-K education and as a result will more likely be ready for kindergarten, as well as academic and lifelong success.

**ADOPTED** this 24<sup>TH</sup> day of May, 2016

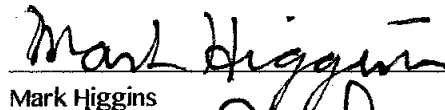


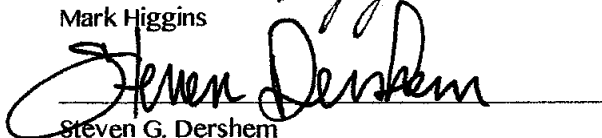
ATTEST:

  
Denise L. Elbell, Acting Administrator

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
Michael Pipe, Chairman

  
Mark Higgins

  
Steven G. Dershem